



OCTOBER 1963

# TOC H JOURNAL



PUBLISHED BY TOC H AT 15 TRINITY SQUARE, LONDON, EC3

**NINEPENCE**

## ***Christmas Cards & Diaries***

Toc H Christmas Cards in two differing designs are offered for sale this year. When ordering, please use the form printed in this issue. As supplies are limited, to prevent possible disappointment, send your order as soon as possible. The Toc H Diary for 1964 is also on sale this month, and we should welcome receiving your order before the end-of-year rush.

## ***The Bordon Company***

The Bordon Company is an association (open to all members and friends) of those who share in the practice of a common rule, and as a result they know the encouragement of being joined with others in giving personal meaning to the Main Resolution.

Members try, each day, to read a short portion of the Bible, to spend some time in quiet, to pray; and withal to express their understanding in service to others. The Bordon Company is therefore no withdrawal from life but a simple attempt to relate the life of the spirit to the life of action. If you are interested please write to: The Bordon Company, Toc H, 15 Trinity Square, London, E.C.3.

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## ***Ourselves***

The Toc H JOURNAL is published monthly eleven times a year. The April issue is a double number and there is no August number. A subscription can commence with any issue and costs only 9s. for a complete year.

N.B.—A price concession to 7s. 6d. per dozen, post free, is made to Branches ordering a minimum of one dozen.



OCTOBER 1963

FORTY-FIRST YEAR OF PUBLICATION



# TOC H JOURNAL

Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view and are not necessarily those of the Movement

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*Together with a List of*

Headquarters, Areas and Houses of Toc H

**COVER PICTURE:** Today's view of Toc H Headquarters, flanked by All Hallows Church (left) and the Port of London Authority building (right). October 5 is the third anniversary of the official opening by the Lord Mayor of London.

*Photograph by 'Skegg' Blanchard*

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# IN AND OUT



## -notes & comment

LET'S HOPE that next winter will not be a repetition of the last one. Some Branches are fortunate in having very snug and accessible headquarters; others are not so well off; but there are some Branch rooms which, with a little ingenuity and hard work, could be made much more cosy than they are. There is no virtue in avoidable discomfort and in this do-it-yourself age any Branch that can't put its own house in order will hardly present Toc H as the answer to the world's malaise.

### If Winter Comes

The editor remembers once visiting a Branch that met in a converted air-raid shelter. Outside were snow and ice; inside, at eight o'clock, it was just as cold. One of the members was still trying to light the iron stove, the air was thick with smoke. All present huddled in their overcoats and mufflers and only by opening the outside door could the stove get sufficient draught to function. Either way, door open or door shut, the prospect was a chilly one and the only cheerful item in two hours was a cup of tea. The fire was just beginning to throw out heat by the time everyone tottered home. One unfortunate guest spent the next two days in bed with a chill.

Warmth and atmosphere make all the difference to a Branch meeting so the wise use of such things as floor coverings, plasterboard, draught excluders and air-bricks, and seeing that the fire is lit well before the meeting is due to start are matters of no small importance. Now is the time for snuggling-down operations.



TOC H WILL again be represented at the Remembrance Day service at the Cenotaph on Sunday, November 10, by ex-Servicemen of both World Wars and by ex-National Service-

### **Remembrance Parade**

men. Full details of the arrangements will have been sent to Branches in London and the Home Counties. Any enquiries from further afield should be addressed to the General Secretary at Headquarters.

THERE ARE OVER 3,000 Homes for elderly people in Britain today. Expansion must continue on such a scale that by 1972 the staff to run homes will need to be doubled. This will call

### **Service to the Elderly**

for widespread recruitment of the right kind of Matrons and married couples for a job that is never easy but always rewarding. The National Old Peoples' Welfare Council is offering fourteen-week training courses for applicants for this kind of work, preferably between the ages of 25 and 50. For details of these courses or any other enquiries, write to the N.O.P.W.C., 26 Bedford Square, London, W.C.1.

CENTRAL COUNCILLORS last April heard John Dessauer, a young member from Perth, W. Australia, describing the recent rash of new units out there. Already one of the newest

### **False Images**

groups is lining up another new venture nearby. In another locality where a new start has been made the initial survey revealed that there was a very poor image of Toc H in the community and that we were considered an ex-Servicemen's club or an Anglican off-shoot or just a queer lot. This should comfort our extension enthusiasts in the home country who frequently find that the community has quite the wrong ideas about us. In the long run may they be as successful as their Australian counterparts in putting things right.

CHARLES NORMAN, a member in Oxford & Thames Valley Area, is back from a reconnaissance in Skopje on behalf of Voluntary and Christian Service and tells of the especially

### **Help for Skopje**

desperate plight of the old people there, homeless and destitute, with winter coming on. Warm clothing and money towards rehousing are urgently solicited by Voluntary and Christian Service, Help Aged Refugees Appeal. Any money should be sent to their 139 Oxford Street, London, W.1, address, and the clothing to Messrs. Hill, Clayton & Co. Ltd., Help Aged Refugees Appeal, Dunbar Wharf, 98/100 Narrow Street, London, E.14.

# World Chain of Light

R. ARNOLD JONES

FOR THE SECOND TIME the vigil of the World Chain of Light begins in Central Africa. The first time, ten years ago, it commenced in Bulawayo. This year it starts in Salisbury — at the time of writing (but not for very much longer) — the capital city of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, a country of over 450,000 square miles but with a population less than that of Greater London.

In one of the quieter avenues of Salisbury cheek by jowl with modern luxury flats stands one of the many old houses of the city — not old by Western Europe's standards but old for Salisbury. This is Toc H House, 148 Baines Avenue. From 1939 to 1945 it was, due to the generosity of Mr. H. M. Barbour, used as a rest house for Service personnel, and since that time it has been "Toc H House" offering all the facilities that the name implies.

In the Quiet Room at the House we begin our Vigil at 9 p.m. on December 11 with the muffled sound of residents at their meal or walking along the corridors in the background for, even here, Toc H cannot dissociate itself from the busy world. The lamps and rushlights of all the Salisbury units will be lit and men and women, both European and non-European, will take their turn at the vigil of re-dedication and remembrance.

Toc H is not multi-racial but, rather, non-racial. We do not deliberately attract Europeans, Asians or Africans into

the Movement. We would rather attract *men* (and women) and try not to notice their colour although this sometimes becomes a difficult task through outside pressures.



The interior of the Quiet Room. Toe H House, Salisbury, S. Rhodesia.

This essential nature of the Movement in Central Africa as in all parts of the world is reflected in the scope of the jobs we do. It is impossible to give details of them all but here are some of them: Hospital broadcasts in both Euro-



pean and African hospitals, a scheme for a recreation centre in a Coloured community, visits to Ingutsheni mental hospital, treats for old folks—the “shut-ins”, meetings with boys from a remand home. Toc H is Father Christmas to hundreds of children who receive a personal reply by Reindeer Mail from the North Pole. Then there is *Kwa Rua* which we are building up as a conference centre outside Salisbury by the banks of a delightful river. Members are busy at week-ends clearing the bush and erecting huts for what will be, one day, a Central African *Dor Knap*.

Toc H in Central Africa has its fingers in many pies: the Central Council for Social Service, Church organisations, Youth Clubs, cine units, to name only a few. And so the work goes on. Rhodesia's founder, when he was dying, used the words from a passage in *In Memoriam*, which is entirely appropriate:

*So many worlds, so much to do,  
So little done, such things to be. . .*

The last hour of the Vigil will be held at the Methodist Church, Third Street, a few blocks away from Toc H house. The one steadily burning lamp will again be augmented by the lamps and rushlights of our Salisbury units until at the end of the twenty-fourth hour the lights will go out, but we hope their influence and symbolism will remain.

---

***Don't say brown***  
**— say Hovis**

# 'Blithe Counselor'

RAY FABES

This autumn a "grey-haired old man" will return to Beds. and Herts. Area. This is Ray Fabes, their young Area Secretary, who went to New York last June as one of this year's party of Clayton Volunteers. Here are some extracts from his long and racy account of his six weeks as "Group Counselor" at the Playschool at Lenox Hill on East 70th Street.

FROM A QUIET village in Bedfordshire—then in one fell swoop (six hours' flying time) stepping out and having a large pad of hot cotton wool forced over your face. New York, then to midtown Manhattan, where it seemed every brick and every piece of concrete produced in the whole world had been used to build this area upwards, and blot out the sky from one's view.

Monday morning at eight o'clock: "Oh, you'll have twelve kids, all ten year olds—they are a bit noisy, and watch Manuel and Luis—they are apt to fight." Oh well, perhaps we will cope, it's only half-an-hour before we are due in the pool.

"Sit down in a circle"—what was that? Well of course one had to start somewhere, in the pool? Oh yes in 25 minutes time: "I'm Ray from England"—a full barrage of obscene language—"I'm your Leader," oh at least that raised a laugh.

People in the offices of the Social Service Department were complaining of the noise, someone suggested a walk around the block along First Avenue before lunch. Here there were blinds from the plush apartment blocks to be swung on, shops to dash in and out of, bricks to be hurled on building sites and all manner of litter baskets to be

emptied, bells to be rung in doorways, steps, walls and best of all the spiky variety of railings to be clambered upon.

Milk free for lunch, whoopee! but can someone tell me why kids' milk comes in cardboard cartons that can be exploded with a terrific noise, and then conveniently hurled into the street four floors down? An old hand at this Playschool lark walked in . . . there was an almighty pile of boys on the floor, this was a game of 'Monster' though who he was I don't know, they didn't seem very scared of him, me, or anyone! "These boys like to go cave hunting" . . . so all was agreed, and a nightmare walk for six blocks to Central Park, and once there, someone had said we should walk in pairs, they were kidding of course! Now a Leader finds himself in the middle of a wooded part of the Park—no boys at all—despair, within three hours of taking them over, they are all lost, then within a couple of hours with the Leader paralysed to the spot, miraculously they start to drift back in their ones and twos. What prompted them I shall never know, and only twenty minutes late a very relieved Counselor returns to the Settlement House, completely shattered and exhausted.

You retire home, the end of the first day to write the requested reports on your reactions to the homes of your dear charges. It has begun with a vengeance.

Second day, big supervisor enters, boys stop playing ball in the room, bring their sweet little heads in from the windows, and behold at one command, peace. Now the law is laid down: There will be no smoking, no spitting, no running inside the building, no jumping down the stairs, no leaning out of the windows, no climbing in the gym, etc. and obey your Leader, he has come a long way, and already we know he has counted his money to see if he has enough to fly back to England tomorrow. And more and more threats come tumbling out, but at least it helped. Still in a temperature that kept up for most of the summer around the 90s one realised by seeing



these 'Animals and their strange oaths' tamed, why so many people call this the Concrete Jungle of the New World. For me already it was like living on a New Planet.

All the Playschool Staff get pretty good pay for their job, now many pictures are forming; professionalism in this field was new to me, as were the backgrounds, quite naturally, in this cramped city, families without one parent living in small rooms, and they all helped to fashion my thinking.



Ray Fabes with some of his boys.

As the heat remained oppressive during that first week, we sometimes managed a little chat about life in England. Surely the tower on the church in the village I came from couldn't be 1100 years old—was that before Robin Hood? Did the moat around the house I lived in have alligators and crocodiles in it? Who lives in Buckingham Palace with the Queen . . . a Duke? Why, where is the King? Is the Duke of Edinburgh the Chief Tax Collector of England. Why doesn't John F. Kennedy have a crown?

Now another facet of this highly organised Social Work Agency reared its head, that night—after only the third

day mind you, at our first Staff meeting. I mentioned my boys' liking of the trees compared with the open spaces, immediately "Why Ray?" Well . . . why, I had never really thought of things in this light before, but now came the blow, with the announcement: Reports—as you know we expect you to be able to give a reportage of your Group, by the end of the week will you: (A) Evaluate the most successful and unsuccessful activities; (B) Evaluate the most effective current Rules and Routines; (C) State clearly what Social and Educational Goals you have fixed for the Group; (D) Diagnose the state of your Group's development; (E) Group Goal(s) and methods of implementation, including programme prescription; (F) Plan the next week's programme and submit it for approval; (G) Record problem cases, behaviour description and how you have attempted to handle.

It would be difficult to explain quite the scene for anyone who hasn't been near it, but the steps of a Neighbourhood House during a Playschool Programme and before the hour of 9.30 a.m. have to be seen to be believed, and those two unfortunate Counselors, perhaps let's have two minutes' silence for them, for they will never get it. The horror of 8.30 duty when it's your turn! The variety of kids you cannot imagine—150 or so of them—Puerto Rican, Negro, Central European, Irish, Cuban, Real American—long, tall, wide, short haired, long haired, clean, dirty, tidy and very unkempt, they are all there. A whole mankind between the ages of seven and eleven of both sexes. Out there in the street—no kids in the building for an hour, well, that's the rule. Up on parked cars, throwing everything in sight, kicking, punching, climbing parking signs, the railings in front of the house are a fatal attraction, spitting at all and sundry, pinching each others' lunch bags and swimming suits and towels. A Counselor sits on the steps trying to get some singing started, the older girls just provoke the boys even more, some boys who are lucky will have comics to read until

they are snatched out of their hands. If you are on duty you don't really know whether to pray for 9.30 when the bedlam will be just taken into the confines of the house—or just to hope that no one gets killed whilst you are outside, balls going out into the road only frighten the motorists who drive past!

Tourist Guides arouse a certain amount of attraction, they are always referred to as Ray's Comics! But to cut out pictures of suits of armour has a certain attraction and when we go on to stories of the Tower of London I got almost 100 per cent audience. "How many people were beheaded there this year?" "Did Profumo go through the Traitor's Gate?" This is from a ten year old! "Naw, Naw, Ray, surely Big Ben is bigger than our Cornell Hospital, how else does everyone in your \* \* \* \* silly little island tell the time from it?" Is Hyannis Port like your Windsor Castle?" "How does the Queen spend her time if you aren't at War?"

But now it's the turn of the brain again, and this week's reports read as follows: Each of the following reports will be returned to you with comments and will serve as the basis for individual supervisory sessions. Your report will eventually be filed as official agency records. (A) Group Development, describe: Events and directions which you consider to be Movements in your Group from less primitive, less organised and less mature interactions, activities, etc. to more mature sociable and civilised socialisations and activities. What conditions have you provided to help this movement? In what ways did your plans and interactions fail to provide this kind of development? What are your plans and expectations for further positive movement?

A big treat you think one day; tickets for the baseball game, big thrill for the kids—ah, a day planned you think. Then you emerge from the subway and find kids everywhere, this is two and a half hours before the game is due to begin! It's special free days for Summer Play-



schools. Up into the stands you go, happily the person from the Grounds who arranged the tickets finds you somehow: "Do you know there are 10,600 other kids here today, it's a big occasion." However, you vaguely remember the shout of "Let's Go Mets" did help them to beat Houston 4-3 and one of the boys did try to explain to his British Cousin Leader, the general idea of the game, but your ears don't hear sounds properly until the next day.

Me? Oh, well, I was foolish enough to use some of the following terms and forever after in my case, they floated after me, or when I called a boy, the others would mimic: "You're daft . . . Sonny Jim . . . Silly basket . . . Stupid Nit" but at least one or two people smiled on the streets as they realised that this man in very short shorts was from England and struggling with their kids! I must say dear Manny shouting "Rrrrrrrubbish Rrrrrrrrobin" began to sound quite affectionate when you got used to it!

A lunch hour, what's that? In six weeks I managed three and a quarter hours away from the cauldron. I know, I counted every minute of it! How were they spent? Well, mostly with Marty, my dear Saviour Supervisor: My Hero; "I adored him because he was so big and strong"—with kids, and yet he is a child psychologist and he always wanted to explain 'Why' kids did things, or suggest reasons behind their behaviour—all I was trying to do was cope with it on the end of my nose. Anyway, he was a brick and had a great sense of humour, I don't know what the summer would have been like without him. Even if I did think he was 'off his nut' with questions such as: "Could you speculate how the problem arose? What conditions and relationships prompted it? What assumptions about children or Group life did you make in handling the problem? Was your handling of the situation effective? Why? If not—why? What discipline pattern do you employ?"

Now what are the highlights, what can one remember best. The day the boys played chess when the Associated Press man came to take our photographs, what behaviour he saw! T shirts were still clean at noon. The day the boy fell in the lake whilst fishing and gave himself such a cold shock—we had a cracked head in the pool, and a twisted ankle (wrestling fall) in the Gym that day before I went to the Vice-Consul's at night for cocktails. The day we were silly enough to play "Blind Man's Buff" and when the dear Leader was blindfolded (he wondered why he didn't catch anybody), the rest of the Group poured water all over a nun as she passed beneath the window—well, you couldn't help but laugh could you? Or could you?

One item I remember clearly here: "Why don't you have a July 4th in England? Why save your fireworks until November 5th?" The explanation that if we had fireworks every day of the year that commemorated a country gaining independence from us, they would soon lose their novelty. Joke not appreciated!

All these experiences of life in a small part of New York in just six very full weeks, the house itself was full of people all the time, earnest and qualified up to the ears Social Workers, programmes for teens, tweens, delinquent street corner projects, programmes for Old Folks, 'The Golden Ageds'. Your housing problems sorted out, children's schooling, all the dreams can come true, and do to a great extent in this vastly changing neighbourhood.

To stand with my kids' parents around me, here at Lenox Hill, to see the bus off to Camp, the boys moved in on me. Was this the final 'punch-up'? "Have you come to fill me in?" I ask. "No, Ray, here's a present." All tied up in a nice box was a white shirt, probably because any one I had worn with them had never stayed white very long, and with it a card to end all cards: "This is you" they said; "Moishe, the Human Cannon Ball," and believe it or not, on the outside of the card it said, so

appropriately: "Cheerio Chaps." They must have been tickled to find just that card, I wonder if they realise just how pleased I was to receive it.

So they boarded the bus, and it moved off down the street, away to another Counselor, and the best of luck to him, for he would not know the meaning, and the affection, which lay behind the phrases that came floating down East 70th Street as they left: Rrrrrubbish, Rrrrrrobin, You're Daft, Sonny Jim . . . Silly Basket . . . Stupid Nit . . . Pip Pip . . . Cheerio."

That, Blithe Counselor, was your Clayton Summer.

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## New Fields

BOB KNIGHT

Toc H Administrative Padre

OUR NAME of 'Administrative Padre' would be regarded by some as the door into a secretarial funk-hole, by others as a contradiction in terms. Nevertheless I am stuck with it, and it is a great consolation that I find myself in a line of men who served through Toc H, and demonstrated that administration and pastoral care may be complementary, with an opportunity to teach thrown in.

We are all aware that our scale of values must operate throughout our internal affairs, but it is at the point where we encounter uncommitted men that the advance is to be made. Discussion and changes within the Movement are no substitute for the extension of it.

I believe extension is under weigh. Five years ago, the future potential of Toc H was to be looked for only in the Branches. Since then the Schools Department has taken great strides, and Marksmen in various places have been taking a fresh look at the Movement that makes their House possible. Add the Bristol Centre and we can



see that Branches are no longer the only point at which we are making a significant encounter with uncommitted men. They are making contact with Toc H not in the conventional Branch, and it is an exciting prospect to see what form our organisation will be required to take.

In all these new and lively fields, it is capacity for friendship (through the development of personal character) that preoccupies the people concerned. Healthy Branches already know that material needs frequently take second place to need for friendship and insight. In other words, people are not so often poor, as lonely; not so often bitter, as bewildered. At Loch Eil, Dor Knap and in the Marks therefore, as in the best Branches, men are preoccupied with the thing most needed in our society, capacity for friendship.

This is not to ignore that we shall live our second fifty years in a world in which food and wealth have to be shared more fairly, not on the national basis with which we have been concerned in the United Kingdom during the last fifty years, but internationally. The central place that overseas projects are getting in our Jubilee thanksgiving is a true reflection of this.

A recent survey of Branches shows that only a third have a Branch Padre. In October there will be a two-day course at Dor Knap specifically for Branch Padres, and the twenty invitations I was able to give have now been accepted.

There is some uneasiness with any view of Toc H as part of the mission of the Church. We are, however, committed to knowing God's will revealed in Christ, and with all its human limitations, the Church has come to be an accepted part of the intention of Jesus, with a number of its men ordained for the full-time ministry. I propose to continue to make known as widely as possible, the opportunity that Toc H can give to a limited number of ordained men.

One criticism of Toc H can be disposed of in this

first article: that it is anachronistic, and too closely identified with the first war to be an effective movement of the second half of this century. Similar criticism might be made of Christianity itself, and was. We have ceased to argue about questions that "dated" the Church, for example, whether the Jewish initiation ceremonies are necessary preliminaries for a Christian, or if we should buy from a butcher who retails meat left over from idolatrous sacrifices. (Chapters 7 and 8 of the first letter to the Church in Corinth are proof that these questions were argued.)

Time and changing conditions may leave some of the early features of Toc H as part of our history. It has already happened to some of them. In the process the Movement is not necessarily robbed of its essential insights. I hope to return to this if the Editor can make space for it.

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## Schools Work Projects '63.

TWO PROJECTS were undertaken during the summer holidays, one in the slums of Liverpool and the other in the depths of the Devonshire countryside. Each party, some twenty strong, was led by John Mitchell, the Assistant Schools Secretary. The object of these projects is to give students and schoolboys an opportunity of *living* Toc H, not of just being talked at about it. Whether the projects succeeded readers may judge for themselves from extracts from the letters we have since received from the boys. This month we deal with the Bovey Tracey project, where, incidentally, the two young ladies who gave up their holiday to do the cooking were Vivienne Swain, formerly a secretary at Headquarters, and Jenny Day our telephonist and receptionist.

Within ten minutes or so names had been exchanged and later on the inevitable jokes. I myself have been living in a hostel with twenty boys from all over England



The bridge builders.

and thought that we lived well together, but this crowd certainly beat it and each person 'did his bit' reasonably well enough, both in the camp and on the battlefield.

The battlefield was Yarner Wood where over a thousand yards of track had to be cleared, trees felled,



river banks built up and a bridge built. No small project but carefully planned by the Conservancy Warden so that work would finish on schedule.

However, I think I speak for all when I say our stay at Bovey will be remembered by the social activities more so than the work, although we are rather proud of the job we have done. We will remember the rock climbing, the cricket matches against Manaton (no scores recorded fortunately) and Bovey colts; and the many, many darts matches against whoever wanted to take us on! R.T.

\* \* \*

The point that will always stand out in my mind was the wonderful companionship given by different young men, from all walks of life: the public school boy, to the technical college student. At this camp everybody was equal, each doing his own share of the work.

Before we started, we knew that if completed, the task set us would be a worthwhile job that we could be proud of.

Thanks to our wonderful cooks the food was marvellous.

This holiday has broadened my outlook and I am sure that if possible I will work at another project of this kind at Bovey. J.F.

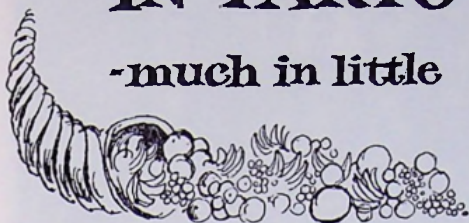
\* \* \*

My principal reason for joining the project was to meet and get to know new people. This camp more than fulfilled my object. I was amazed that after only a few days we all knew each other well, and any problems of living together were non-existent.

The camp has left me with many happy memories of the many friends I made and the various things we did together. I found the work of the Nature Conservancy so interesting that I may make it my career. If there is another project next year, I would like to put my name down for it. C.M.L.

# MULTUM IN PARVO

-much in little



☛ **TOC H WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION AND ALL-HALLOW'S** sustained a great loss by the sudden death in August of **MARY RUSHWORTH**, who had been a member since 1933.

☛ **PETER STEPHENS** has been appointed Marks Pilot and will be based in London for the time being.

☛ **TARGET PRACTICE.** October is the last month of the Toc H Financial Year and gives Branches the last chance this year of exceeding that average contribution to the Family Purse of 52s. per member.

☛ **BRANCH PROGRAMMES FOR THE 1963/64 WINTER SESSION** could profitably include inter-Branch visits and training evenings. Systematic study and discussion of such Toc H books as *The Second Mile*, *Stirring the Mixture*, *Talking Points* and *Rediscovering Toc H* would be worthwhile.

☛ **WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT.** Starting in Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, observances in Central and South Africa, Europe, the U.K. and America on December 11, and elsewhere on December 12, in each place at 9 p.m. by local time. See article on page 302.

☛ **NEWS AND GREETINGS** should be exchanged in good time for reading just before the World Chain of Light.

☛ **JUBILEE PLANS** for Regional Celebrations in 1965 should be in train by now. Are yours?

☛ **MEMBERS' ROLLS FOR 1964** will soon be received by Branch Secretaries. The Branch Executive is responsible in the first instance for considering the health of the Branch in terms of "members in good standing". A meeting for this purpose during December will ensure that no undue delay occurs in completing the 1964 Roll.



## Continentials at Dor Knap

EUROPE NO LONGER ISOLATED

JOHN CALLE

MUSICAL EVENINGS at Dor Knap, as many know, are apt to be something special, but one last August was extra-special. There was singing in four languages (five counting Latin) for this was our Continentals' Week. The finest harmony came from a trio made up of two young Belgians, trained in the Poperinge church choir, and a German, Walter Renner, who was only seventeen when called up to fight in Russia. In 1945, at the age of nineteen, he was wounded four times in one day in Belgium and landed up in hospital in England. Thereafter he met the Toc H Branch at Devizes and so began the friendship



which brought him over from Bad Homburg to join our party. Once again he found himself working on English land, but this time with a difference!

Why did we plan this first Continentals' Week? Well, some of us think that even if Britain can't get into Europe there's no reason why Toc H shouldn't have a darned good try. Or is Toc H to be a peculiarly British thing? The first step was to invite some Continental friends over as our guests to sample the atmosphere of Toc H as provided at Dor Knap. We had eight young Belgians from Poperinge and district, one German, and a strong Toc H host team which included two Australians, a Rhodesian, a member from Cambodia, and a member from Charleroi Branch, which with Brussels makes up our only two Branches on the Continent.

Our party worked tremendously hard in the mornings, excavating for the car-park, sawing logs or tidying up the garden. In the afternoon we covered the Cotswold and



At work on the car park.



# Elder Brethren

*' With proud thanksgiving . . . '*

BROWN.—On August 22, GEOFFREY POWELL BROWN, aged 41, a member of Rickmansworth Branch and a former Hon. Warden of Mark II. Elected 27.11.'51.

CORNALL.—On July 16, RICHARD NORTON CORNALL, aged 76, a founder member of Ackworth Branch. Elected 19.6.'51.

COTTON.—On August 4, NORMAN CECIL COTTON, aged 61, a member of Plymstock Branch. Elected 1.7.'36.

HIBBS.—On July 20, WILLIAM FREDERICK HIBBS, aged 65, a member of Muswell Hill Branch. Elected 7.9.'50.

HOLMES.—On July 23, WILLIAM HOLMES ("BillyO"), aged 67, a founder member of Glenfield Branch. Elected 1.3.'40.

HURLEY.—On August 3, FREDERICK W. HURLEY, a South Wales Area member. Elected 22.12.'27.

LEAVER.—On July 22, WILLIAM HENRY LEAVER, aged 70, a member of Churchdown Branch. Elected 14.2.'62.

MACFIE.—On September 12, ALISON BLAND SCOTT MACFIE, aged 76, a Foundation Member of Toc H and Founder Pilot of Toc H Women's Association.

QUARG.—On June 20, in Alberta, Canada, KURT F. QUARG, aged 56, a member of the Central General Members Branch and formerly of Kumasi Branch. Elected 9.7.'34.

REEVES.—Suddenly, in August, JOHN WILLIAM CHARLES REEVES, aged 59, a member of Wadhurst Branch. Elected 30.3.'45.

STEERS.—On August 16, REGINALD GREGORY STEERS, aged 56, the Chairman of Evesham Branch. Elected 20.3.'30.

WALTERS.—On August 1, GEORGE JOHN DOUGLAS WALTERS, aged 64, a member of Chandlers Ford Branch. Elected 6.6.'57.

WILKINSON.—On August 13, the Rev. ARNOLD WILKINSON, aged 53, a member of Wanstead Branch. Elected 7.5.'61.

## In Memoriam

### JEAN TAYLOR

Everyone who knows Dor Knap will be sad to learn of the death of Jean Taylor, after a short illness. She had been cook at the "Big House" for many years and had a great reputation, but had retired to live at the Ledges with her friend Miss Burton by the time Toc H took up residence here and asked her help four years ago. She has cooked for us ever since when there have been parties at Dor Knap, and the many compliments she received bear witness to her skill. There never was a kindlier autocrat of the kitchen nor a more willing helper and friend. She will be sadly missed by all of us here and Toc H will always be grateful for her faithful service. G.A.



# FAR CRY

## -overseas notes



Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN

### Two up

QUITE RECENTLY both the Kowloon (Hong Kong) group and the Entebbe (Uganda) Joint group have applied for recognition as Branches. Both have experienced the ups and downs of Branch life, and when a Branch is very isolated the downs can be particularly disheartening. For this reason the leadership in both units deserves congratulation for having steadily worked their way up to the point when they can make their application with confidence. For years the men and women in their respective Hong Kong units have given their help to the Sha Tin Babies Home of Miss Dibden. Now the men are also turning to the Cheshire Home and Ken Burke, the Secretary, writes this:

We have now turned our attention to helping out at the Cheshire Home which is located in Stanley, a rather isolated sector of the island. There are only about 30 invalids quartered there at present and their quarters are unusual to say the least. They are housed in "Quonset" Huts in a former gun emplacement and some inmates are living in bunkers still wearing their wartime camouflage.

Despite its odd appearance the place is spotless. In charge is Mrs. Spoon, a Chinese lady and a Registered Nurse. She has a cook and several female helpers but is badly over-worked. The

Group provided a Christmas Party for the inmates last year and small gifts of toothbrushes and toothpaste and other toilet items were distributed.

Lately we have begun providing a bi-monthly film show at the Home which seems much enjoyed by the invalids. Many are confined to wheelchairs, some are carried to the show, while others make their way as best they can. They are all spotless and very cheerful. The youngest is an 18-year-old lad who is paraplegic and confined permanently to a wheelchair. He can only use his left hand but you would be impressed, as we were, at the beautiful sketches he does, copied from magazine pictures. He is called "The Duckling" by his fellow patients.



Major and Mrs. Sam Rasalam. Sam is still working under Government orders in Madras, but is nevertheless able to keep in fairly close touch with Toc H affairs in South India.

### Blindness in Northern Rhodesia

Older members in the Western Area may remember 'Pop' Adams, who in recent years has been working in Northern Rhodesia. His most recent job has been to organise an anti-blindness campaign in the Luapula valley on behalf of the Royal Commonwealth Society for the Blind. It is obviously an intensely interesting work, and these quotations are taken from his first report dated April 1st, 1963:

Today we complete the first year of our mission to Northern Rhodesia, under the leadership of Dr. Benjamin Cobb (then of St. Thomas's Hospital, London). Two Medical Assistants, two drivers and I set out with two Land Rovers and a Bedford to investigate the causes of blindness in the Northern and Luapula Provinces, and to treat cases of eye afflictions.

In this province live about 255,000 Africans, the majority living at bare subsistence level. They belong to some 22 different tribes, of which the most important appear to be Lunda and Bemba.

The people live in small villages of 200 houses, neatly laid out in one street. Indeed, the Luapula valley is one long street of houses stretching for over 200 miles, with but short gaps between villages—surely the world's longest street. Certainly it must be the world's longest street of the blind. For along this street during our first twelve months' search we have found about 700 blind persons. Another 100 were found elsewhere, giving a total so far discovered of 800. The population of the valley alone is about 150,000.

Dr. B. Cobb has already published his report dealing with our first four months' activities, and an account of his work at the Mbereshi Mission Hospital. His report deals with the problems of malnutrition and the effects of this upon the children when they are infected with measles or smallpox. The latest statistics, given at the end of this report, appear to confirm the findings of Dr. Cobb. The peoples of the Luapula valley have a poor staple diet of manioc (cassava) and fish. The manioc contains but a trace of vitamin A, and the fish liver, which might be expected to contain vitamin A for minimal requirements, is never eaten but thrown away before the fish is cooked. Milk and meat, which might provide an alternative source of vitamin A, are almost non-existent, due to the presence of the tsetse fly, which destroys the cattle. As a consequence, the children of the Luapula appear to get little vitamin A after weaning. It is encouraging to note that a firm at Bulawayo has a new product called Protone, a protein food which has already fed millions of undernourished in Africa and Asia. A representative recently attended a meeting of the Northern Rhodesia Council for the Blind and, after hearing evidence, agreed to add vitamin A to this product. We, together with the Council, are also investigating the manufacture of a vitamin-enriched biscuit, suitable for schoolchildren. Ways must also be found to enable cheap skimmed dried milk to reach the valley.

Happily, all is not black in this report. Through the good offices of the Reverend E. G. Nightingale of Lusaka, as Secretary of the N.R. Christian Council, we have obtained 750,000 multi-vitamin and vitamin A tablets from the International Church Medical Association in New York. These are expected to arrive in the Luapula during this present month.

The problem of continuation of production of vitamin A from agricultural sources is being investigated through the Government Department of Agriculture.

P.C.G.A.



# FROM ALL PARTS

## -area news



### SCOTLAND

The EDINBURGH Branch has left Dalry House, which has been its Headquarters for many years, and has moved to more central premises at 105 Hanover Street (top flat), and will be meeting there in future, at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesdays. This move was occasioned by the fact that we got notice that the House would probably be closed down some time in the future, and, though we had leave to stay where we were, there was no security of tenure. Visitors "frae a' the airts" will always be welcome.

JACK MORISON.

### WEST MIDLANDS

As a result of a publicity drive, which included visits to about 470 houses in the Dudley's Fields and Mossley Estates, it is now almost certain that a new unit will be formed in Bloxwich.

A local builder, Mr. N. A. Pursehouse, gave the land, designed the building and drew up the plans for the new headquarters of the WEDNESFIELD Branch in Graisle Lane, and recently he was invited to lay the foundation stone. Mr. Pursehouse has also given the design, and helped in the construction of, the games room at Dor Knap.

BROADWAY felt quite honoured when they were allowed to lay the foundation stones of George's greenhouse at Dor Knap.

HEDNESFORD members have recently sponsored the formation of a local branch of the Invalid Tricycle Association, and having circulated all physically handicapped men who have an invalid tricycle, a group of these men have now formed the local branch. The Branch headquarters is in use regularly by an old Veterans' Club, Boy Scouts' Association, Gramophone Society, Bond Mini-car Club, and most local organisations who run flag days use it as a depot on the day of their collections. J. TREVOR EDWARDS.



Tunbridge Wells Display Tent at the Royal Agricultural Show.

## KENT

For the first time in the 101 years' history of the Royal Agricultural Show, Toc H had a display tent in which the work of the Branches in the TUNBRIDGE WELLS area was brought before the visiting public by means of exhibits and displays prepared and submitted by the various Branches.

The venture proved a great success. Many people visited the tent where ladies of the Women's Association were serving tea and biscuits. Friends from all over the area came in for a chat and everyone was much impressed by the displays. Toc H had at last arrived and the Branches must now ensure its future appearances at the Show. Many visitors showed a keen interest in the Movement and were put in touch with their local Branch to ensure that their interest is maintained.

The staffing of the tent throughout the two days of the Show was maintained by members of the Branches in the Tunbridge Wells Districts. The Area Padre, Clifford Pollard, was there for the two days and arranged a Display with bookstall and "hand out" literature.

T. D. B. WHYTE.

Several members of NEWINGTON-IN-THE-VALE Branch attended a service in Canterbury Cathedral on Trinity Sunday, June 9, when fellow-member George Hare was ordained deacon. George has been a member of the Branch for many years and was Pilot before leaving for theological training a year ago. He has returned

to Ramsgate to take up the duties of assistant priest at St. Laurence, the Church he so faithfully served as a layman in many capacities during the past. The Branch hope that George will soon become Padre of the unit.

D. J. VENABLES.



*Kentish Express*

South Ashford members with good help from local scouts collected £30 for the R.S.P.C.A. "Save the Horse" Fund.

## MARCHES

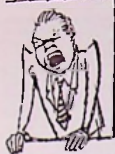
The OSWESTRY Branch organised a Treasure Hunt in conjunction with the Sports Club of the Orthopaedic Hospital. The event started from the Hospital Car Park and the rule of entry was that each car taking part must take two patients, thus giving them an evening tour. An interesting route through the beautiful Border District was prepared and a poem perpetrated by the Branch Secretary gave the clues. After a very keen contest the winner was the representation from the Gladstone Ward to whom was presented the Toc H Shield given by the local Branch.

The group at NEWTOWN have held meetings with the County Y.F. Clubs to plan a series of concerts, ably assisted by the Newtown Silver Band and friends, the proceeds of which will benefit the Freedom from Hunger Campaign. Another job which takes up a lot of their time and energy is chopping wood for needy folks. Through the gift of a local farmer who provides the wood, the use of his tractor and a power saw, they prepare for winter hazards.

T. ROMANIS.



YES!



OPEN

HUSTINGS

-readers' letters

NO!



*The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H and asks that they be written briefly and to the point. Effort is made to include a representative selection, and they are printed as individual view-points, not necessarily those of the Movement as a whole.*

### 'Pat' Leonard

As I read *The Times* obituaries to Bishop 'Pat' Leonard my mind stirred to the period when he was rector of S. Ethelburga's, Hatfield, Herts, and chaplain at the Toc H House, Lille, in the early part of 1940. I was privileged to serve at the altar when living in Hatfield and I hear now his disciplined mind quietly reciting a psalm or medieval prayer as we processed to and from the sanctuary at the communion services: a visible example in humility.

He was a loved leader of his curates and parishioners who saw in their Rector the sustained intensity of his lively faith as day followed day.

At Lille in the peculiar quietness of the early months of 1940 Bishop Pat gave the

needed touch in personal relations to those separated from normal family life. His scripture readings and addresses were keyed to our dependence on Our Father God.

Many will call to mind his taking of Light there and at Branch meetings when he enhanced the beauty of its intrinsic ageless message as he portrayed by voice and gesture its two-fold pointer of remembrance and rededication in illumined service and the warmth of fellowship.

We in TocH who came in his sphere of influence will give thanks at our next Branch rededication services for Bishop Pat Leonard's constant 'fervent and loyal' example flowing from his prayers to the 'Heart of energy'.

L. G. PRITCHARD.

*Taunton, Somerset.*



## Italian Tour

**I** AM hoping to organise a 15-day coach tour of Italy in June next year for members of Toc H, their families and friends. I would like to hear as soon as possible from those interested in joining the party, as hotel, coach and rail reservations have to be confirmed by the end of this year. The proposed tour will start from London (Victoria Station), by train to Chiasso or Milan, and then by coach to Florence (2 nights), Rome (3 nights), Sorrento (4 nights), Assisi (1 night) and Venice (2 nights), visiting en route Pisa, Sienna, Pompeii. Optional excursions can be made to the Isle of Capri and Amalfi. The cost will be about 44½ gns. If couchettes are required for the rail journeys the extra cost will be £2 2s. These prices include the services of an Italian guide.

I shall be pleased to send full details to anyone who would care to write to me.

LEWIS ROBINSON  
(Rayleigh Branch).

2 Trinity Road,  
Rayleigh, Essex.

## A Builder writes

**T**HANK YOU very much for your note enclosing my Builder's Card for this year. It was good to hear that the number of Toc H Builders is increasing—there is so much that is rotten in this country and throughout the world these days it is reassuring to be able to say of Toc H—how far that Light throws its beams.

W. B. PURNELL.

Fleet, Hants.

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# RNLI

## A few thoughts on Change

**I**N the JOURNAL for June our Administrator says "members long to see Toc H utterly transformed so long as nothing is actually changed," also "there is a growing demand for a change in our ceremonies."

George Draper's article advocates a change in the JOURNAL.

Following his kite was an article "Lampolatry," printed in the JOURNAL 40 years ago. (Be careful, we are looking backwards.) Was this included to support the agitation for changing the Ceremony of Light? Are we becoming too obsessed about change? Surely we can rest assured that Toc H will adapt itself to changed conditions since it is a *movement*. It will change unhurriedly, as it changes chaps, provided the game is played sincerely.

George's proposed JOURNAL in tabloid newspaper form frightens me. Newsprint is often used for wrapping fish and chips. George hopes we shall welcome his change thereby "ensuring that Toc H is regarded by the community as a modern progressive Christian organisation."

A "War Cry" or "Daily Mirror" won't do that George.

Perhaps John who is to become the Editor will appease George. He certainly will give me much satisfaction by publishing the JOURNAL earlier, so that it can be received before the third week of the month. Let us not dwell too much upon this craving for change during the twelve months before our Jubilee, for which a target of doubling our mem-

bership and balancing our budget should take precedence. A good deep penetrating examination of ourselves will effect all the change that is needed. It is the spiritual life that will provide the answer.

FRANK L. GALES.

*Exmouth.*

## Why this Segregation?

**S**ELDOM has a letter roused me quite so much as the one printed in the June JOURNAL under the heading of "Why this Segregation?"

Toc H Women's Association with its proud history of unselfish service has risen like the phoenix out of the ashes of Toc H. They may not be any younger than we are in age but they possess the spirit of a new movement.

There is only one Toc H, as far as I am concerned, and no segregation in this world can make it two, and the sooner this is realised by all parties the easier it will be for Fellowship and Service to help us to seek the Kingdom of God.

JIM MCCLURE.

*Dundee, Scotland.*

## To Increase Membership

**T**O INCREASE membership, action is needed by ordinary members *AND* by Toc H leaders. Of first importance is the need for the general public to be conditioned to think of Toc H as something alive, energetic and worth joining. This impression can be created by:

(a) Urgent consideration as to which things are vital and fundamental to the Movement, and the elimination

of all other things as being dead, useless and unattractive.

(b) Revision of the means of telling the public about Toc H.

(c) Having in each Branch a full, overflowing programme, a purposeful atmosphere at meetings, and leaders who have thought deeply about Toc H.

Among those things which are fundamental are the spirit behind the Royal Charter, and the Statement of Aims and Objects of the Movement. Among those things which are unessential and unattractive I would include outdated ceremonies, prosy literature, cumbersome committees, frequent harking back to the past, religiosity and lampolatriy.

To tell the public about Toc H, our publications should be expressed in simple, pungent, and up-to-date words, and our JOURNAL in vigorous, attractive and readable style.

As for the revitalization of Branch life, this rests with the Branch members but they should be encouraged to experiment with new ideas and with new methods of work.

Recruitment is at a low ebb because we have lost confidence, not so much in our ability to sell the idea of joining Toc H but in the public's opinion of the attractiveness of what we have to sell. We know that membership of Toc H is stimulating and rewarding, but the potential recruit needs to be convinced of this by a well-planned and well-executed campaign.

There should be no fear that we shall be unable to find younger men who are in sym-

pathy with our aims and ideals. But the urgency of modern life and the impact of such things as television have made them intolerant of mumbo-jumbo, aimlessness, and waffle—they want to be up-to-date, fashionable, 'with it'. This has already been seen by the Boy Scouts who have changed their hats and their pants and by the W.V.S. who are to adopt a more youthful-looking uniform. If Toc H had a uniform it would still be in the style of the 1920's. The picture of Toc H needs to be transformed and changes will have to be accepted.

VIC BROWN.

*Northampton.*

### Purposeful Propaganda

I SUGGEST THAT members utilise the JOURNAL for propaganda purposes. Each member using public transport, doctors' or dentists' waiting rooms, restaurants or dance-halls etc., could accidentally on purpose leave them when they have finished reading them. They will then possibly be picked up and read by other people.

I further suggest that a small blank space be left on the inside front cover, for individual Branches to insert their own Branch Headquarters' address and meeting times. Could this be arranged? A rubber stamp is easily acquired!

I realise that the above ideas are not perhaps, new ones, but when I think of (say) 10,000 monthly issues multiplied eleven times each year, available for selling Toc H, my mind boggles!

BOB HEASMAN.

*Edmonton, London, N.9.*



# Headquarters, Areas and Houses of Toc H

October, 1963

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*Administrative Padre:* The Rev. A. G. KNIGHT.

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*Editor, Toc H Journal:* J. CALLF, M.C.

*Training & Service Sec.:* A. G. CHURCHER.

*Overseas and Forces Sec.:* G. R. R. MARTIN.

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*A.P.—AREA PADRE.*

*H.A.C.—HON. AREA CORRESPONDENT.*

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**Southern London Area:** *A.P.:* Rev. J. L. Gingell.

**South Eastern London Area:** *A.P.:* Rev. J. L. Gingell.

**Western London Area:** *A.S.:* M. B. Elson.

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*H.C.—Honorary Commissioner.* *H.A.S.—Hon. Area Secretary.*

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